

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Sub A1
1. A teething toy, comprising:

a book-like structure having a plurality of leaves; and
a teething element that is attached to at least one of said leaves, said teething element being fabricated from a non-toxic material, whereby it will be safe for an infant or small child to place his or her mouth on said teething element.

2. A teething toy according to claim 1, wherein further comprising artwork that is provided on at least one of said leaves.

3. A teething toy according to claim 2, wherein said teething element is integrated into said artwork so as to accentuate said artwork.

4. A teething toy according to claim 1, wherein said at least one leaf has a corner area, and wherein said teething element is secured to said corner area.

5. A teething toy according to claim 1, wherein said teething element is shaped so as not to substantially extend outwardly from said leaves.

Sub A2
6. A teething toy according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said leaves comprises a cloth-like material.

7. A teething toy according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of said teething elements are provided.

8. A teething toy according to claim 1, wherein said teething element is textured so as to provide teething relief to an infant or small child when chewed on.

9. A teething toy according to claim 1, wherein said teething element is sized and configured so as not to be capable of entering and penetrating to its full depth an opening in a test fixture that is 30 mm in depth, 35 mm in height, and 50 mm in width, with the ends of the width being curved at a radius of 17.5 mm.

10. A teething toy according to claim 1, wherein said teething element is sized and configured so as not to enter and penetrate to its full depth a cylindrical cavity in a test fixture that has a depth of 30 mm, and a circular opening having a diameter of 42.7 mm

11. A teething toy according to claim 1, wherein said teething element is secured to one of said leaves by a tether.

12. A teething toy according to claim 1, wherein said teething element is positioned in a location so as to also be functional as a gripping aid for aiding users to turn at least one of the leaves.

13. A teething toy according to claim 12, wherein said teething element is sufficiently weighted to keep the book-like structure from closing when it is laid open.

14. A book-like article for small children, comprising:

a plurality of leaves;

binding means for binding said leaves together as a book; and

gripping means, secured near an outer edge of at least one of said leaves, for providing enhanced grippability to the leaf, whereby a small child will be able to turn the leaves of the book-like article like a book.

15. A book-like article according to claim 14, wherein said gripping means further is constructed

and arranged to be a teething element.

16. A book-like article according to claim 14, wherein said gripping means is secured near a corner portion of the leaf.

17. A book-like article according to claim 14, wherein said gripping means is fabricated from a resilient material that is nontoxic.

18. A book-like article for small children, comprising:
 a plurality of leaves;
 binding means for binding said leaves together as a book; and
 leaf weight means, secured near an outer edge of at least one of said leaves, for providing enhanced weight to the outer edge area of the leaf, whereby the book-like article will be discouraged from closing when it is laid open in a given position.

19. A book-like article according to claim 18, wherein said leaf weight means further is constructed and arranged to be a teething element.

20. A book-like article according to claim 18, wherein said leaf weight means is secured near a corner portion of the leaf.

21. A book-like article according to claim 18, wherein said leaf weight means is fabricated from a resilient material that is nontoxic.